

# THREE GERMAN DRIVES HALTED BY BYNG



The



World.



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## Baker Blamed for Failure of Army Gun Supply ALLIES WIPING OUT THE U BOAT FLEET

### SECRETARY OF WAR BLAMED BY CROZIER FOR SHORTAGE OF MACHINE GUNS IN ARMY

**Declares Weapon Adopted Never Had a Field Trial—U. S. Output at Present Only Half as Much as We Made for the Allies Before the War.**

By Samuel M. Williams.  
(Special Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.)  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Goaded by members of the Senate Military Committee to fix responsibility for delays in supplying American forces with machine guns and other equipment, Major Gen. Crozier, Chief of Ordnance, finally said today at the Senate Military Affairs Committee Inquiry: "The Secretary of War."

Amazing conditions regarding guns were revealed. Our army is woefully without machine guns or have a variety of picked up types for more training purposes. Both the European war and our own experience in Mexico had demonstrated the importance of machine guns, of which we had none. Congress more than a year ago appropriated \$12,000,000 for them, but the War Department did nothing. Not until June, a month after America declared war, did the department decide on the type of gun to buy. Even then it was an entirely new model that has not yet been tried out in the field and no factory is ready to produce it.

Not until April of next year, five months off, will a single one be available. Factories have to be equipped to make them. Meanwhile large American factories were making other types for the British Government, but the War Department would not adopt them. The new model is called the Browning gun, invented by an employee of the Colt factory. Similar extraordinary changes and delays have occurred in small arms. The War Department changed its mind and its models so many times that the army drilled first with wooden guns, and now is using old designs, without enough even of them to go around.

Factories in this country are turning out today only one-half the number of rifles they did last March. There is no ammunition available for many of the old rifles now being used by soldiers in entrenchments. Only one-half the soldiers in camp are even now supplied with the new model rifle. The American rifle and machine gun differs from types used by our British and French allies and the ammunition of one will not fit the other. Gen. Crozier's declaration placing responsibility on Secretary of War Baker for the machine gun shortage caused an immense sensation at the Capitol. After the witness had made his accusation the Senate committee did not question further along the line to find out just what the Secretary did or did not do. He consented the subject was passed over for further inquiry in secret.

Senator Hitchcock (Neb.) told Crozier at the conclusion of the hearing today that many high army officers here told Senators there have been some delays in providing rifles and other for the army.

"We want something specific," said

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### 17 INJURED AS CAR JUMPS TRACK ON PALISADES SLOPE

**Overturns on Weehawken Hill—Four in Hospital, One Likely to Die.**

Seventeen persons were injured in a trolley car wreck early today on the steep hill leading down from the New Jersey palisades to the West Shore Ferry in Weehawken, opposite 42d Street, Manhattan.

The brake failed to work and the car, gathering momentum, jumped the track at a sharp curve and tumbled over on the narrow promenade next to the track. There are doors only on one side of the car, and these were against the ground after the accident, so that the passengers, all of them laborers on their way to work, were imprisoned.

Windows on the upper side of the overturned car were broken and through these the passengers were helped out. All were taken to the North Hudson Hospital. Four were so badly hurt that they had to stay there. The others, after receiving treatment for minor injuries, went home.

Charles Lapasso, No. 108 Eighth Street, West New York, suffered a fractured skull and may die; Robert Smith, No. 223 Union Street, Union Hill, has a broken arm and a dislocated shoulder; James Cabot, No. 24 Sixth Street, West New York, has a broken leg and James Giamella, the postman, suffered from severe shock. These are in the hospital.

Traffic was blocked for hours and passengers on their way to New York had to walk about three-fourths of a mile from the wreck to the ferry.

Officials of the Public Service Corporation of New Jersey, which operates the car line, are trying to find out what was the matter with the brake.

Citizens of New Jersey are also interested in an inquiry as to why the accident was not prevented by the derail switch installed for just such emergencies. The switch is situated above the sharp curve leading down to the ferry house and if it had worked it would have led the runaway car to a safe stop. The company is said to have depended on the automatic working of the derail instead of stationing a man there permanently to operate it and keep it in order. One theory is that he tied up the switch. The car was demolished.

### MAVERICK MAY BE RAIDER.

Figured in Hottest Plot Against England—Sighted by Three Vessels.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—That the steamer *Maverick*, which figured prominently in the Hottel revolutionary plot against England, is operating as a German raider between this city and Honolulu, was the belief expressed here today by officers of a steamer.

### U.S. AND ALLIES SINK U BOATS AS FAST AS THEY ARE BUILT; GREATEST OFFENSIVE FAILS

**"Submarine Fleet Steadily Dwindling Away," Says a High British Authority.**

LONDON, Dec. 13.—When the Associated Press inquired of high naval authority today "if the anti-submarine war was going well and what was the reason for the high rate of sinkings in the past three weeks," the answer was:

"The enemy had more submarines at work. He has actually been attempting a submarine offensive of the greatest possible magnitude in an effort to reinforce his offensive on land. He is trying to bring off a coup which will incline us to peace."

"He has failed signally on sea as on land, and he has had to pay a heavy price. Our counter-measures are meeting with increased success and the enemy will experience constantly increasing difficulty in maintaining his campaign."

"If the shipbuilding efforts can be properly spurred on in England and America, the Allies will be able to say within a measurable time that tonnage is being launched at a rate exceeding the sinkings."

"If the naval measures continue to improve, as it is reasonable to expect, the Allies will also be able to say that U boats are being sunk faster than the Germans are able to build them and that the German U boat fleet is steadily dwindling away."

"Much still depends on American shipbuilding, but as encouragement to those who are putting their efforts into that work it may be said with confidence that the Allied navies are able to handle the U boat."

The month of November was a red letter month in the anti U boat war for three reasons:

First—The loss of tonnage during the month was the lowest since the unrestricted submarine campaign began.

Second—The sinkings of enemy submarines were the greatest ever recorded in a single month.

Third—The launchings of new merchantmen from British yards came "within measurable distance" of equalling the loss of tonnage by submarine attack.

This destruction of submarines was by no means due to any spasmodic run of luck but to the development of a detailed, comprehensive campaign involving many phases—a campaign which will grow more efficient rather than less as time goes on, according to expert opinion.

The first ten days of December have maintained the good record of November as far as the U boat sinkings are concerned. Moreover, it is considered inevitable that the British-American success in this direction will find a reflection in the morale of the submarine crews, making them less confident and less efficient at the same time that the British and American naval men are becoming more confident and more efficient.

The convey system of protection for shipping which the Allies have adopted and perfected has kept the submarine campaign to a minimum of some of their plans. It is not a fair wait for untroubled navigation, and put them in seriously dangerous. The U boat plays its perceptive game today at great peril after which torpedoing distance of a few miles.

### BLACK SEA FLEET SHELLS COSSACK DON STRONGHOLD

**7,000 Corpses in Canals Evidence of Iron Hand of the Extremists.**

PETROGRAD, Dec. 13.—The Black Sea battle fleet is co-operating with the Bolshevik forces in the fighting at Rostoff, according to despatches received here.

The warship *Kollida*, and other vessels are firing on the Cossacks at Novo Tcherkassk.

Novo Tcherkassk is a city on the Don River twenty-five miles north-east of Rostoff. It is considered an important Cossack stronghold.

Victory Claimed for Both in Battle of Cossacks and Bolsheviks.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—A battle has occurred near Bielgorod, in Southern Russia, between Bolshevik forces and Cossacks under Gen. Korniloff, but the outcome has not been established and Petrograd advices are conflicting.

The Petrograd correspondent of the Daily Mail reports that Gen. Korniloff was defeated and wounded and that his capture was to be expected. A despatch from the representative of the Post, however, denies the reported Bolshevik victory, saying Gen. Korniloff has routed his opponents and will soon join Gen. Kaidine at Novo Tcherkassk.

The Post correspondent, who received his information from an unnamed source, sends a detailed description of the battle. He says Gen. Korniloff had about 3,000 men, making up what is known as the "Wild Division" of Cavaliers of St. George, "Battalions of Death" and some artillery.

When the Bolshevik troops were encountered Gen. Korniloff divided his army and sent one part forward by train. This was soon followed up by the Bolsheviks, who promptly "trumped" a great victory. Gen. Korniloff, however, in the meantime, maneuvered his main force near the Bolsheviks and attacked with artillery. Some of his opponents fled and others surrendered or joined the Red Guard section of the Korniloff army. The remaining Bolsheviks were surrounded and dealt with very drastically.

In a long interview of the Russian situation the Petrograd correspondent of the Post says there is no prospect of a peaceful settlement, and that henceforth force must decide everything. The spirit of the successes throughout the country of the Bolsheviks, he writes, is that they represent the iron hand. What is behind them is as yet undetermined, but among the industrial workers of their organization and men who were prominent in the social political policy of the empire, and once ruled Russia. These men, according to the correspondent, are exhibiting disposition everywhere.

GAINING GROUND BECAUSE THEY USE STRONG HAND.

"Although floods of immigration have been poured out daily upon the Bolsheviks," he continues, "it is beyond question that they are gaining ground in Russia, simply because they use a strong hand, which is the only thing the Russians in general appreciate. Their methods might prove too much, but would be undoubtedly perfectly suited to the hour."

"For example, in the last three weeks there have been taken out of the rivers and canals of Petrograd 7,000 naked corpses of persons whose deaths were not caused by drowning. The injuries

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### HINDENBURG IS PREPARING GREATEST BLOW OF THE WAR IN FRANCE AND FLANDERS

**British Line Is Being Firmly Held Against Terrific Attacks—Entire French Front Under a Hot Artillery Fire.**

LONDON, Dec. 13.—While Gen. Haig reported today that the British lines are holding against tremendous attacks from Cambrai to Bullecourt, Paris announced that artillery fighting was in progress along the entire French front. Despatches from Zurich declare that German newspapers received there are filled with stories that the Central Powers are preparing for the greatest blow they have ever struck in the west.

These despatches declare that Hindenburg, in conjunction with the Austrian command will "subject the Allies on the west front to the same treatment meted out to Italy."

The great blow, according to the German press, is expected to finish the war and to compel the Allies "to accept our peace."

Following is the text of today's War Office report:

"Accounts of the fighting yesterday in the vicinity of Bullecourt show that two attacks were made by the Germans at dawn, after a heavy preparatory bombardment. The first was delivered from the north against our positions in the Hindenburg line immediately east of Bullecourt and the other on a wider front from the northeast and east against the angle formed by our trench lines south of Ronscourt-lez-Cagnicourt. Both were repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy."

"Shortly afterward another attack was made on the latter front and parties of the enemy penetrated our obliterated trenches at the apex of the angle in our line. A few Germans who reached our trenches at other points were killed or taken prisoner. Local fighting continued all day and until late in the evening in a small portion of a trench in which the enemy had obtained a footing, but without change in the situation."

"A hostile raiding party was repulsed last night southwest of La Bassée. We inflicted casualties on the enemy and secured a few prisoners as a result of patrol encounters east of Zonnebeke."

The attacks were designed by Crown Prince Rupprecht to break Byng's lines. The German objectives were far beyond the British positions. Bavarian shock troops attacked in dense mist. To the accompaniment of an incessant artillery fire which showed a tremendous concentration of guns.

BATTLE BY BIG GUNS ON ALONG THE ENTIRE FRONT, SAYS PARIS REPORT

Nine German Airplanes Brought Down by the French—Raid on German Bases.

PARIS, Dec. 13.—Active artillery fighting is in progress along the whole front, the War Office announces.

"We reported a raid in strength yesterday in the enemy in Courbes Week," the official statement says.

"From Dec. 10 to 12, nine German airplanes were brought down by our pilots. In the same period our avi-

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